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Instructors especially who use a text as the basis of their courses will welcome a volume which includes so much, well presented, of principles and practice and which gives evidence of intimate contact with business men and business processes.

DON C. BARRETT

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Political Thought in England from Herbert Spencer to the Present Day.

By ERNEST BARKER. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1915. 16mo, pp. 256. \$0.50.

This book, which is a recent addition to the "Home University Library," is fully up to the high standard which the editors of that series have previously maintained. While exhaustive treatment of the subject would be impossible within such a narrow compass, the author has nevertheless succeeded in placing in clear perspective the various aspects of recent English political theory. The work is both expository and critical in its treatment of the different schools of thought, while the general linking up of the phases of historical development gives a unity to the whole which justifies the spirit of healthy optimism marking the author's conclusions.

From the historical standpoint the most valuable part of the book is that which deals with the work of T. H. Green and Herbert Spencer. The principles enunciated by these writers have been presented as forming the intellectual antithesis from which may be traced a continuous line of thought that is at present manifesting itself in the realms of social psychology, the new economics, and the aspect of legal theory which has been emphasized by Maitland. The author devotes considerable attention to the modern tendency to return to the cult of instinct, as evidenced in the present reaction against both "intellectualism" and the state. The general conclusion is reached, however, that the new movement will not result in the growing importance of economic or social groups at the expense of national unity. What will result will be a new conception of the state and of all that is implied in the idea of sovereignty. It is useless to attempt to satisfy our desire to be up to date by denying the obvious and accepted facts of life; hence the current criticism of the functioning of existing institutions will result in gradual reform rather than in abolition of the present political system. "The state is always with us; and the party system, in a state like ours, which is based on representative government, is equally inevitable. Where there are representatives, there must be organization of representatives; and what organization there can be other than party no man has yet discovered. Sparta has fallen to our lot, and we must adorn it. The state and its institutions are with us, and we must make the best of them" (p. 250).